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Congress of the United States
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May 9, 2011

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, COMPETITION,
AND THE INTERNET

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I have been made aware of a situation regarding the Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC) Compliance Plan that has been filed with the Federal Communications Commission by i-wireless, a provider of pre-paid wireless services operating in my congressional district and throughout the State of Indiana.

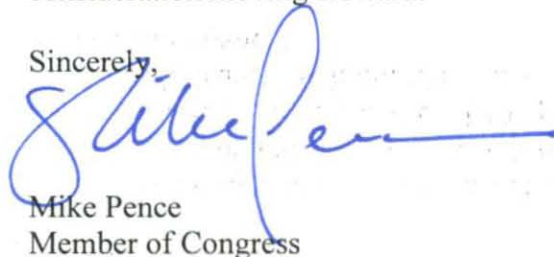
This ETC Compliance Plan was submitted in July of 2010 and the FCC has yet to act one way or the other. I understand that FCC staff noted some initial questions and concerns about the original filing, but that these issues have since been worked out in subsequent discussions with i-wireless.

It has been brought to my attention that the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) is recommending that i-wireless be granted ETC status for the purpose of providing Lifeline service in Indiana. The OUCC points out that by allowing i-wireless to enter the Lifeline market in Indiana, it will introduce much needed competition, create an economic benefit and expand employment.

I fear the FCC's delay in acting on the submitted ETC Compliance Plan could harm Indiana Lifeline customers by limiting their choice of wireless providers. The delay is also holding back employment and investment by i-wireless across the State of Indiana.

It is my hope that the ETC Compliance Plan submitted by i-wireless will receive prompt and due consideration moving forward.

Sincerely,



Mike Pence
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

July 14, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Mike Pence
U.S. House of Representatives
100 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pence:

Thank you for your letter regarding the compliance plan filed by i-wireless, LLC. The compliance plan outlines the measures that i-wireless will implement to comply with the conditions imposed by a June 25, 2010 Commission *Order* conditionally granting i-wireless forbearance from Section 214(e)(1)(A) of the Commission's rules as part of its attempt to gain eligible telecommunications carrier (ETC) status and offer Lifeline service.

The Commission is committed to the goal of providing the important benefits of Lifeline to low income consumers. At the same time, the Commission is very concerned about the need to address waste, fraud and abuse in the Lifeline program, particularly wasteful spending in the form of households receiving service from more than one Lifeline-supported ETC. Commission staff has met with i-wireless on several occasions to discuss its compliance plan, and has explained that a number of issues raised in the plan are under consideration by the Commission in a pending *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* to reform and modernize the Lifeline/Link Up program. Further action on the i-wireless compliance has been deferred until the Commission resolves these issues. I look forward to adopting new rules and expeditiously resolving cases like i-wireless.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Julius Genachowski